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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RECORD
NV-050-7-45
for

Union Carbide Well and Pipeline at Alamo, Nevada
T. 7 S., R. 61 E.
Section 5: SW¼ (within)
Section 6: SE¼ (within)

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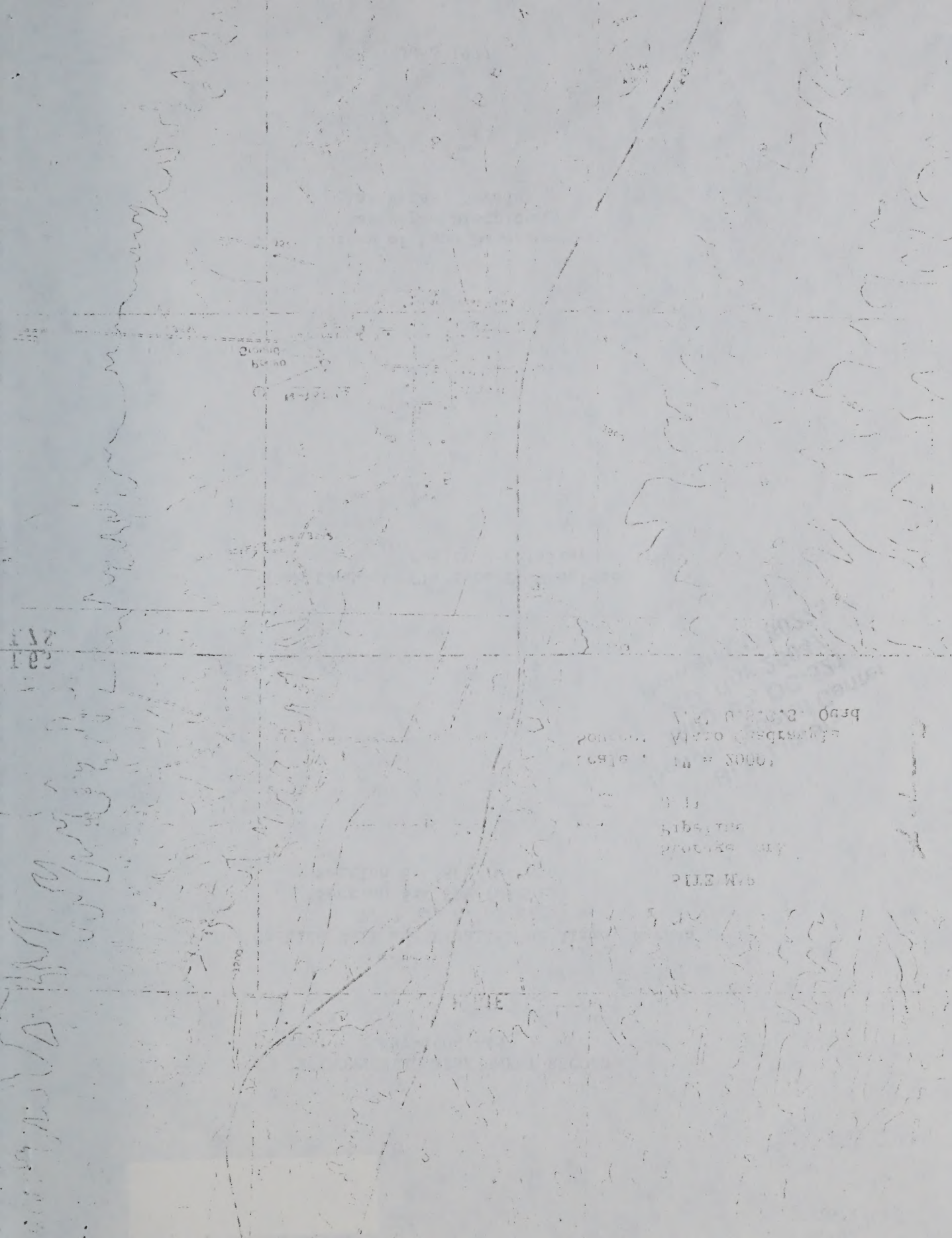
Team Leader: Clarence F. Hougland
Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management
Las Vegas District
Las Vegas, Nevada

June 1977



#1568628571 ID:88076633 TD 491 .H68 1977

I. Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

The proposed action is granting a right-of-way on and across public land for water wells, pipeline, and storage tank. The pipeline length is 1,324.19 feet and would connect the wells with the existing storage tank. Union Carbide Corporation has applied for the right-of-way on behalf of the Alamo Farmstead Water Association. A new well, needed to supply water for residents of a new housing subdivision in Alamo has recently been constructed by Union Carbide. A Temporary Use Permit (TUP) N-5-77-9 was issued to Union Carbide for test drilling of the new well.

The right-of-way for the pipeline will follow the existing line located on public land. This existing pipeline connects the storage tank and the wells drilled previously. New pipeline would be laid only from the new well to the existing line.

The only feasible alternative is to deny the application.

II. Description of the Existing Environment

A. Non-Living Components

1. Air and Climate

Air quality in the area is good. Air pollution, when present, is caused by blowing dust. Wind velocities average 5-8 mph with gusts of 20-30 mph during storms. Precipitation in the area averages 6-8 inches with most being recieved in the winter months.

Temperatures in the area are warm in summer, mild in winter. The mean average temperature is 56.6°. Humidity is low.

2. Land and Land Uses

The subject land is located on the west side of the Pahranagat Valley adjacent to the town of Alamo (see site map). The topography of the area consists of rolling hills dissected by numerous gullies. Elevation of the area is approximately 3500'. Soils of the area are of the Alko series. These soils consist of shallow, well-drained soils formed in mixed alluvium on alluvial fans. The permeability and fertility are low.

The land is presently used for livestock grazing and limited recreation. The land is part of the West Pahranagat Grazing Allotment. The subject land is

pose of boosting electrical consumption (SCE) [illegible]
Army [illegible] the town of Alamo, has [illegible]
objections to use of the road for the right-of-way
for the pipeline for water [illegible] (SCE) drainage.

7. Water

There is no live water [illegible], however,
being pumped from wells in the vicinity.

Living Conditions

Vegetation [illegible] variety, but grows
[illegible] and [illegible]. Plant
density is low. There are [illegible] or thornless
plant species.

Wildlife [illegible] consists of rabbits, coyotes, foxes,
various rodents [illegible] are important in fall. No
known rare or endangered species are present.

9. Archeological Investigations

[illegible] are the primary [illegible] using [illegible] soil
[illegible] to produce food. The plants a
[illegible] various [illegible]. These are
in turn, eaten by [illegible]. Various animals eat both
plant and animal material. [illegible] to whatever
the [illegible] have overlooked and bacteria and fungi
decompose the rest. [illegible] are [illegible]
provide to produce new [illegible] with very little material being [illegible].

In the same way that [illegible] on plants, [illegible] also depend on animals. Rodents, for example, gather and bury seeds for later use. The buried seed, if [illegible] from [illegible] and will sprout and grow when conditions become favorable. Most of the brush plants are probably established [illegible] Other plants, such as [illegible], depend upon animals to disperse their seeds through the eating of the fruits and elimination of the undigestible [illegible] at another

part of Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Application N-5928. The applicant, the town of Alamo, has no objections to use of the land for the right-of-way.

The proposed right-of-way does not conflict with any Caliente Management Framework Plan (MFP) decisions.

3. Water

There is no live water on the land. Water is, however, being pumped from wells in the vicinity.

B. Living Components

Vegetation consists of saltbush, spiney hopsage, bud sage, creosote bush, and related grasses and forbs. Plant density is low. There are no known endangered or threatened plant species in the area.

Wildlife in the area consists of rabbits, coyotes, foxes, various rodents, birds, and lizards. Habitat is fair. No known rare or endangered species are present.

C. Ecological Interrelationships

There is an energy pyramid in these environments. Plants are the primary food producers, using sunlight, water, soil minerals, and carbon dioxide to produce food. The plants are eaten by the herbivorous animals and reptiles. These are, in turn, eaten by carnivores. Omnivorous animals eat both plant and animal material. Scavengers clean up whatever the other animals have overlooked and bacteria and fungi decompose the rest. Plants use these decomposition products to produce new food, therby closing the system with very little material being lost.

In the same way that animals depend on plants, the plants also depend on animals. Rodents, for example, gather and bury seeds for later use. The buried seeds are protected from the sun and will sprout and grow when conditions become favorable. Most of the brush plants are probably established in this way. Other plants, notably the cacti, depend upon animals to disperse their seeds through the eating of the fruits of pods and elimination of the undigested seeds at another site.

Human

I.

Positive

The pressing rule
distance
of
area.
by the
Statute
archaeological
July 1974
All
Appendix
Project)
Impact
Evaluation
Environmental
Archeological
Natural
Unusual
Destroyed
(2)
with
(4)
available
(3)
Alamo.

D. Human Values

1. Socio-Cultural Values

The existing environment of brush-covered rolling hills differs very little from the surrounding land. The areas of native vegetation do contrast with the green agriculture areas. The subject land contains a rodeo arena which is used by the residents of Alamo. An R&PP application for 80 acres of public land has been filed.

An archaeological investigation of the area was conducted in July 1974, during a field examination for R&PP (N-5928). All cultural values found were collected at that time (see attached copy of C.R. Report). A subsequent investigation on April 21, 1977 revealed no other cultural resources.

2. Landscape Character

This area has no wilderness potential and is not located within a 5,000 acre roadless tract. There are no outstanding visual resources in the area. The area has a Class 3 visual rating. The subject land is not within a flood prone area.

III. Analysis of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

A. Environmental Impacts

1. Anticipated Impacts

a. Proposed Action

(1) Vegetation and soil structure will be destroyed along the new pipeline ditch.

(2) Some compaction of the soil along the ditch will result from the use of heavy equipment.

(3) Dust and exhaust emissions will occur during construction.

(4) Noise and the presence of humans will disturb wildlife during construction.

(5) Additional water will be available for use in Alamo.

b. Alternative

If the right-of-way is denied the environment will not change from what it is at present. Additional water will not be available.

2. Possible Mitigating or Enhancing Measures

a. Proposed Action

(1) The destruction of vegetation and the disturbance of soil could be limited to that necessary for laying the pipe.

(2) The right-of-way for new pipeline should not be bladed.

(3) Soil removed from the ditch could be redistributed in the ditch after installation.

(4) All litter created by the construction activity could be removed from public land.

b. Alternative

None

3. Recommendations for Mitigating or Enhancement

a. Proposed Action

(1) The destruction of vegetation and the disturbance of soil should be limited to that necessary for laying the pipe.

(2) The right-of-way for new pipeline should not be bladed.

(3) Soil removed from the ditch should be redistributed in the ditch after installation.

(4) All litter created by the construction activity should be removed from public land.

b. Alternative

None

4. Environmental Impact

a. Proposed Action

(1) A small amount of disturbance will be
done here, and no doubt will occur along
the pipeline.

(2) Wild life will be impaired slightly.

(3) Dust and noise will occur for a short time.

(4) Water will be available for use in Alamo.

b. Alternatives

A new water source will have to be found to supply
the additional users.

5. Relationship Between Short-Term Uses and Long-Term Productivity

The short-term result should be for a higher-way we'll have
a great effect on the long-term productivity of the area.
With the additional water the town of Alamo will continue to
grow.

6. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

I. Proposed Action

Water used from the well.

2. Alternatives

None

IV. Persons, Groups and Government Agencies Consulted

Mr. Jerry Tapp - Tri-County Subdivision Representative
Mr. Edward Arnold - Lebanon County Commissioner, Alamo, Nevada

V. Unresolved Issues

There was in the case may been resolved only from the petitioner.
It is resolved ; Alternatives of new water sources in question

4. Residual Impacts

a. Proposed Action

(1) A small amount of soil structure will be destroyed and compaction will occur along the portion of new pipeline.

(2) Wildlife will be temporarily disturbed.

(3) Dust and noise will occur for a short time.

(4) Water will be available for use in Alamo.

b. Alternative

A new water source will have to be found to supply needed additional water.

B. Relationship Between Short-Term Use and Long-Term Productivity

The short-term use of the land for the right-of-way will have a great affect on the long-term productivity of the area. With the additional water the town of Alamo will continue to grow.

C. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

1. Proposed Action

Water pumped from the well.

2. Alternative

None

IV. Persons, Groups and Government Agencies Consulted

Mr. Jerry Yopps - Union Carbide Corporation
Mr. Edward Arnold - Lincoln County Commissioner - Alamo, Nevada

V. Intensity of Public Interest

Interest in the case has been received only from the applicant. It is assumed that the users of the water are also interested.

VII. Signatures

Recommended for Approval By:

Date

Date

Approved By:

Date

VI. Participating Staff

Gordon Cheniae - Realty Specialist
Stanton Rolf - District Archaeologist
Terry Driver - Range Conservationist
Jim Gegen - Soil Scientist
Richard Enriquez - Wildlife Biologist

VII. Signatures

6-20-77 — Date — Clarence F. Hougland — Clarence F. Hougland, Realty Specialist

Recommended for Approval By:

6/23 — Date — Denise P. Meridith — Denise P. Meridith, Environmental Coord.

6/28/77 — Date — Frank E. Bingham — Frank E. Bingham, Chief, Division of Resource Management

6/23/77 — Date — Phillip V. Range — Phillip V. Range, Area Manager

Approved By:

6/23/77 — Date — Frank E. Bingham for John S. Boyles, District Manager

Section	Township	Range	Meridian
22	T. 7 S.	R. 7 E.	M.D.B.M.

Land ownership status

Other subsidiary data

Cultural affiliation, geologic age and/or human activity dates of use

Site description, position, surrounding terrain, and importance

Date

1 May 74

N-5928

CR-No. 5-313(N)

Negative OBSERVATION

Form 6230-2
(June 1968)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

ANTIQUITIES SITE INVENTORY

☒ Archeological ☐ Paleontological ☐ Historical

1. Site number	2. Type of site

3. State	County	District	4. Map reference
NEVADA	LINCOLN	LAS VEGAS	

5. Location
RODEO GROUNDS ALAMO

Section	Township	Range	Meridian
Sec. 5	T, 7S	R. 61E	M. D. M.

6. Land ownership status	7. Other site designations
BLM.	

8. Cultural affiliation; Geologic Age and/or formation; dates of use

9. Site description, position, surrounding terrain, and importance
An Archeological inventory of the Rodeo grounds extended approximately ½ mi around the perimeter of the grounds. One scrapper was located however a continuing survey yielded nothing. The grounds & immediate parking area are well traveled and utilized.

10. Area of occupation	11. Present condition
12. Photo numbers	

13. Informants and references

14. Recorded by	Date
J. Foley.	1 July 74

(continued on reverse)

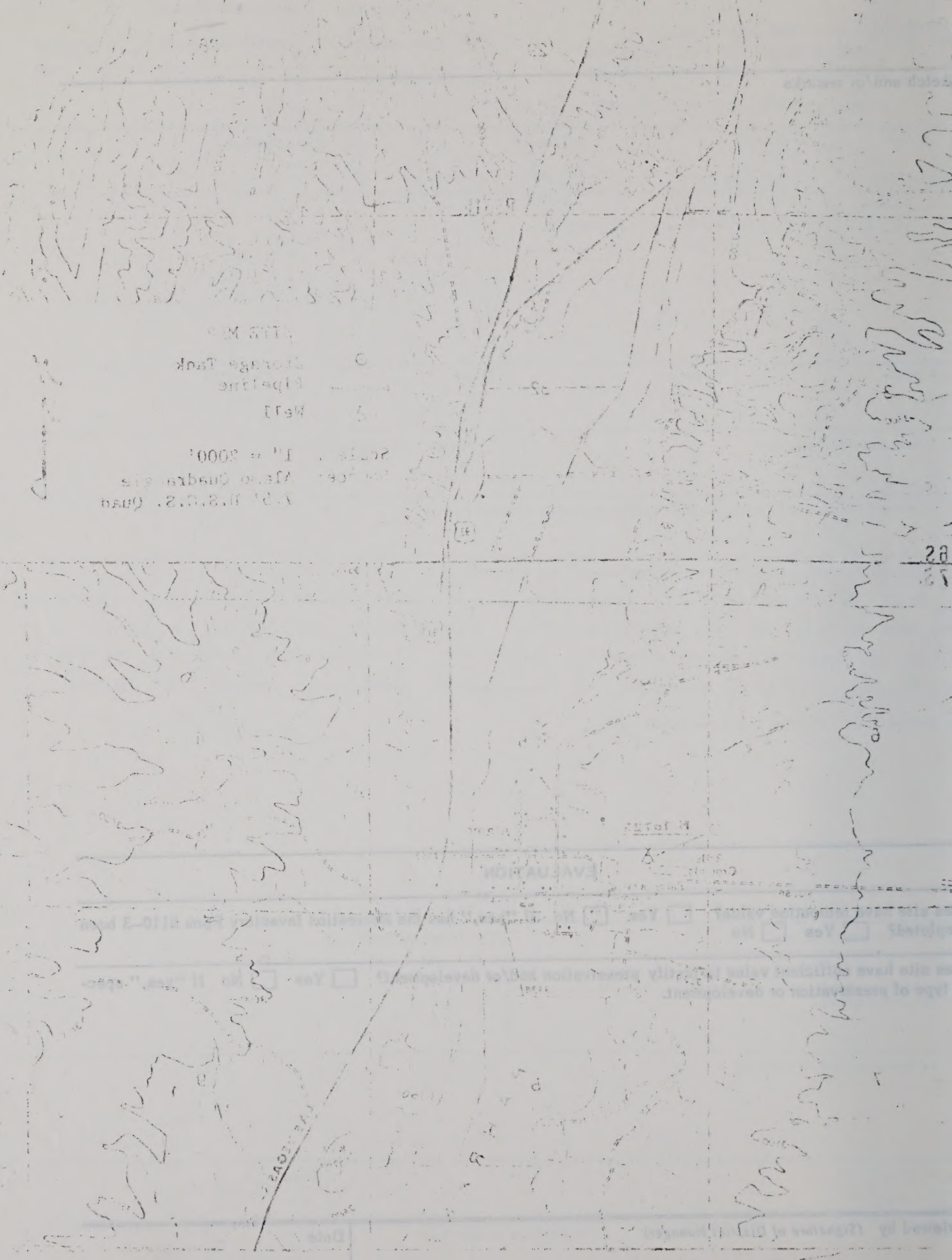
5. Sketch and/or remarks

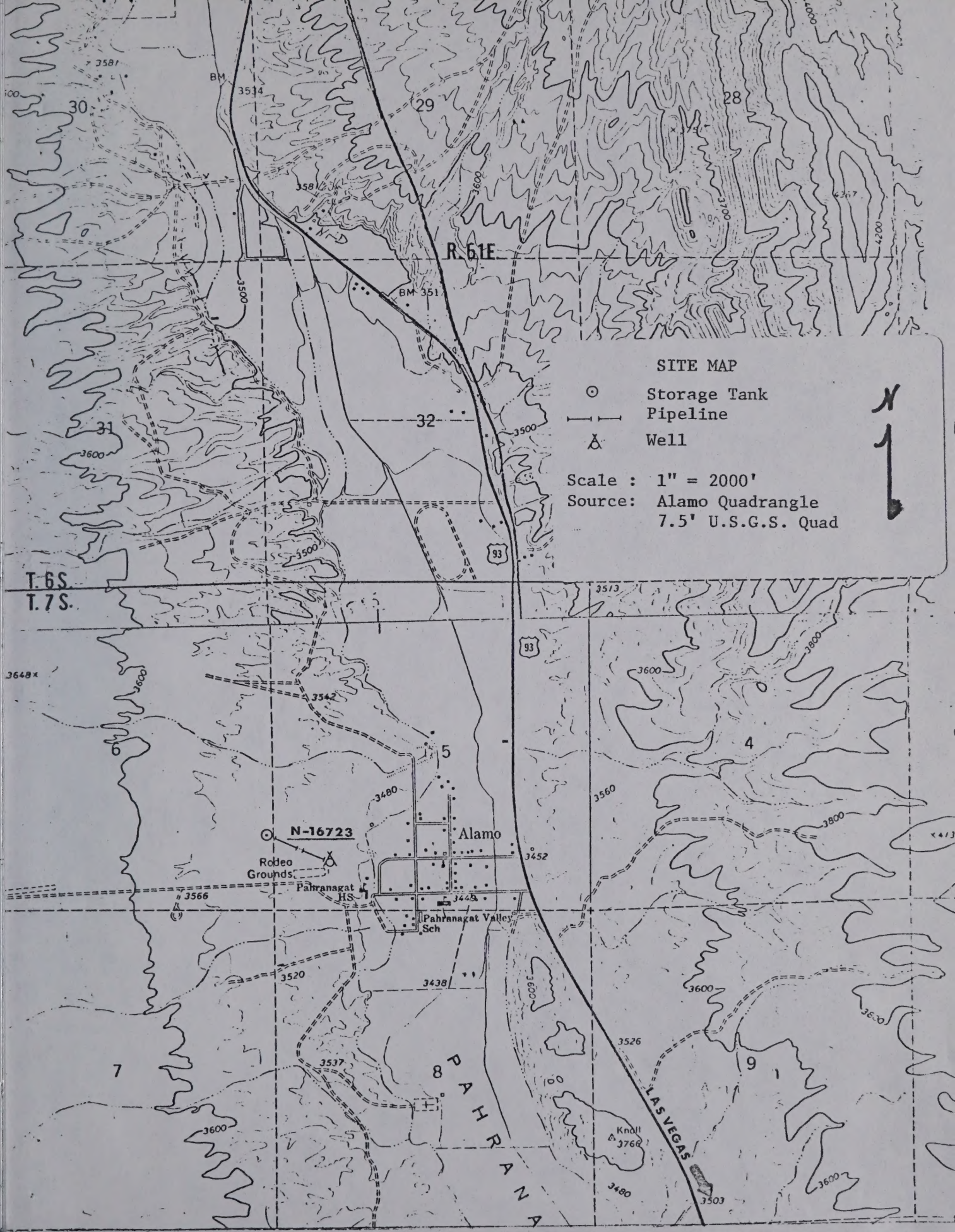
EVALUATION

. Does site have recreation value? ☐ Yes ☐ No If "yes," has the Recreation Inventory Form 6110–3 been completed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

. Does site have sufficient value to justify preservation and/or development? ☐ Yes ☐ No If "yes," specify type of preservation or development.

Reviewed by *(Signature of District Manager)*	Date




SITE MAP
Storage Tank
Pipeline
Well
Scale : 1" = 2000'
Source: Alamo Quadrangle
7.5' U.S.G.S. Quad
N
R.61E
T.6S.
T.7S.
N-16723
Alamo
Rodeo Grounds
Pahranagat HS
Pahranagat Valley Sch
LAS VEGAS
PAHRANA
Knoll
3768
BM
3514
BM 351
3581
3566
3520
3438
3537
3526
3503
3480
3452
3542
3513
3500
3600
3700
3800
4000
4200
93

Description of the Proposed Project

The proposed action is [illegible] and access
public [illegible] pipeline and storage tank. The
pipeline length is [illegible] The proposed project is
the [illegible] location is [illegible]
for the right-of-way [illegible] Alsop Unit and Kerrin-
dium. A new well, needed to [illegible] residents of a
nearby subdivision in Alma [illegible] cost treated by Kirton
Corbida. A Temporary Use Permit [illegible] was issued to Union
Oakville for temporary drilling of the new well.

The right-of-way for the pipeline will follow the existing line
located on public land. Only existing pipeline corridors will be
storage use [illegible] will be utilized. New pipeline [illegible]
be laid only from the new well [illegible]

The only issue [illegible] to deny the application.

Description of the Affected Environment

Non-Mineral Components

Air and Water:

Air quality in the area [illegible] Any pollution from
present [illegible] is caused by blowing dust. Wind [illegible]
average [illegible] gusts of 20 to 30 mph during storms
typically in the [illegible] Winds are westerly
being received in the winter months.

Temperatures in the area [illegible] to summer, with
winter [illegible] temperatures in [illegible] Humid
to low

Land and Land Uses:

The subject land is [illegible] of the
[illegible] valley [illegible] to the town [illegible]
surface). The topography of the area [illegible]
rolling hills [illegible] by numerous gullies. Elevations
[illegible] are [illegible] 3200'. Soils [illegible]
shallow, [illegible] formed in [illegible]
[illegible] rains. The [illegible] and [illegible]

The land is presently [illegible] pasture
[illegible] forage for [illegible] All [illegible] The [illegible] and